

**Committee Notes – Joint Meeting**  
**Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID**  
**December 13, 2012**

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Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Dan Chismire. Carol Massie. Not Present: Don Mushin, and Thaddeus Smith. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Fabio Conti, Elizabeth McDonald, and Anthony Bell. Not Present: John Lupo, and Roxanna Sassanian. Liaisons: Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, Mike Harkins, Rei Bailey, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Commander Dennis Kato, Captain Beatrice Girmala, Officer Irv Isabella, Officer Danny Pesqueira, LAPD; Deputy Artee Panghongkeow, LASD; Not Present, Council District 13. Staff: Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Leslie Blumberg, The Fonda Theatre; Travis Serpa, Space 1520; Jerry Neuman, Shepherd Mullin/Muse; Rob Vinokaur, Muse; Howard Ferguson, Hollywood Frontier.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairs Fred Rosenthal and John Tronson at 10:05 a.m.
- II. Public Comment: No public comment.
- III. Meeting Notes: The Committee approved the notes from their November 8, 2012 meeting. Unanimously approved.
- IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: Steve Seyler gave his report for the period of November 5 – December 9. Seyler informed the committee that foot patrols have become more visible in the area, as officers are now rotating shifts walking in different areas of the Boulevard. The officers are exploring different ways to increase visibility, while still being able to respond to appropriate calls. Seyler reported that long time homeless woman, Nancy Miller, had recently passed away. BID Security officers were familiar with Nancy as they had often times worked with her and Homeless Agencies to help Nancy get access to services she needed. Seyler also mentioned that Arni, another longtime homeless man who was often causing disturbances in the BID, has been placed in a court ordered observation program for the next year. The officers have made a total of 1,216 combined arrests for the two areas this year.

2. Calls for Service: Seyler informed the committee that calls for service have continued to increase. At the request of John Tronson and the committee last month, Seyler had put together a list which depicted the typical calls for service BID Security has been receiving. These calls included: quality of life issues, trespassing, sleeping on the sidewalk, theft, and alcohol-related incidents. Seyler said that both Andrews' dispatcher Vicky and the officers have been told to urge individuals to call LAPD/911 when the call is not within the purview of BID security.

3. Deployment Plan/Schedule: Seyler said that he is also working on slightly altering the deployment schedule, in order to accommodate the committee's request to increase BID Security visibility during the daytime hours. Seyler has begun experimenting with this plan by having a team of officers out on T-3's for a majority of the day. He and the Andrews team will continue to develop an accommodating strategy for the committee as the month goes on.

B. Report from LAPD: Captain Girmala introduced Commander Dennis Kato to the group. The Captain was pleased to announce that this was Hollywood's eighth straight week in which all categories of crime experienced a reduction. The Captain also noted that both response time and the apprehension rate for the area had also improved over the last period. LAPD also reported that there has been a 25% reduction in

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aggravated assaults for the year. Lastly, Captain Girmala mentioned that she was looking forward to the discussion on nighttime security later in the meeting, as presently there are 115 ABC licenses in Hollywood.

C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: Deputy Panghongkeow from the LASD reported that the department is continuing its effort to have uniformed and undercover deputies riding the Metro lines. Dep. Panghongkeow also said if anyone had any questions he would be available after the meeting.

V. New Business

A. Discussion Regarding Possible Nighttime Deployment Hours

1. Council Office Meeting on Application Process: Joe Mariani attended a meeting with Kerry Morrison at Councilmember Garcetti's office regarding the application process for businesses to obtain a Type 47 or 48 license. The meeting was primarily an informational one, and featured attendees from ABC, the City Planning Department and LAPD Vice.

2. Update on LAPD Late Night Camera Monitoring Experiment: Mariani reported that at last month's HPOA board meeting the board had approved an expenditure of up to \$25,000 in order to place a BID Security officer in the LAPD camera room for three nights a week over a 13 week period. Mariani said the idea had come from the LAPD after Kerry Morrison had met with both Deputy Chief Debby McCarthy and Captain Girmala. The LAPD, and the BID, at that time felt that monitoring of the cameras was a good approach for the BID to take to assist the LAPD in their efforts to secure the area during nighttime hours. Mariani said an MOU was sent to the City Attorney's office and that the BID was waiting on their feedback before beginning the trial program.

3. Discussion Related to Possible Deployment of BID Security during the Evening Hours: Captain Girmala briefed the committee on the number of incidents that have been occurring during the evening hours within the BID. Mariani explained that with the increased population entering Hollywood at night, and the lack of LAPD resources, the BID has been asked to consider placing BID officers in the area during nighttime hours. The committee discussed the pros and cons of this approach.

Rob Vinokaur said that as nightclub/restaurant owner he sees the need for additional security, and would be willing (along with other clubs) to pay for an increased presence on the Boulevard at night. Tronson said that the idea to have the hospitality industry form an association to pay for additional security was an interesting one, but he wasn't sure if BID Security was the appropriate entity to handle the detail. An experiment had been tried in the past, utilizing BID Security in the late night hours, and rendered unsuccessful results due to the officers lack of resources (lights, sirens, additional manpower, etc.). Both Captain Girmala and Jerry Neuman said the need for security was very necessary. Tronson, agreed but said there was a number of issues the BID Board and Committee would have to look at before deployment could be changed. Tronson asked Mariani to include the item for continued discussion on next month's agenda.

B. Security RFP 2012

1. RFP Process Update: Mariani reported that Committee Chairs Rosenthal and Tronson had met with Bill Farrar and Steve Seyler prior to the meeting to continue negotiations related to the Security contract. Talks were productive, and the committee will await a revised quote from Andrews International in the near future. Mariani said that he hopes a contract with agreeable terms will be available by the Boards' January meetings.

VI. Old Business

A. Homeless Outreach Update:

1. Injunction Impacting Skid Row Sidewalks: Mariani gave an update on the *Lavan vs. City of Los Angeles* case. The City Attorney's appeal of the Ninth Circuit's ruling has been rejected, and there is a chance the case may be taken before the Supreme Court. At this point, the staff has reached out to the City Attorney's office to obtain some direction on how BID operations should proceed, in light of the court's ruling.

2. LAHSA 2013 Homeless Count: This year's LAHSA homeless count will take place in Hollywood on January 31, 2012. Mariani urged all members and guests who were interested in volunteering to visit the online sign up page at <http://hollywoodhomelessregistry.wufoo.com/forms/hollywood-homeless-count-2012/>

**B. Community Impact Team**

1. Sidewalk Issues: Mariani reported that the Tour Bus report was given to Councilmember Garcetti's office and that the group was still waiting on feedback regarding the proposed ordinance.

C. Valet Parking Ordinance: The valet parking ordinance was passed by City Council. Mariani said that Hollywood is scheduled to be one of the first areas where the new ordinance will go into effect.

**D. BID Surveillance Cameras**

1. Whitley Camera Update: Mariani mentioned that he and John Tronson have been in discussion with the building owner at Hollywood/Whitley. It appears that the owner has now been able to secure the roof of the building. Mariani has ordered a replacement repeater for the building, and has been coordinating with Metro Video to try and find a time for the camera to be re-installed after the New Year.

2. MESH Network Research: Mariani said he had received the quote for the MESH network and that it was around \$400,000. Due to its high cost it doesn't seem to be a feasible option for the mobile camera, but the staff will be looking at potential ways the money could be raised to install the network if the LAPD wishes for the BID to explore the option further.

3. Lemongrove Camera: Mariani is asking the Chamber Foundation to coordinate with the Council Office and serve as the administrator for the maintenance funds related to the ongoing care of the Lemongrove camera. Funds were given to the BID to administer the maintenance contract, but since the camera is outside the BID boundaries, the HPOA cannot serve as the administering agent. Mariani is hopeful that the Chamber Foundation will partner with the Council Office in order to help ensure the camera continues to function.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 2013 at 10 a.m. in Suite 802 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Committee Chairs Fred Rosenthal and John Tronson at 11:10 a.m.